

REMARKS

The specification has been reviewed, and clerical errors of the specification have been amended.

In paragraph 2 of the Action, the abstract was objected to. In view of the objection, new abstract has been filed.

In paragraph 3 of the Action, the disclosure was objected to. In this respect, the heading of "Background of the Invention" and "Summary of the Invention" are respectively written on page 1, line 4, and page 3, line 6 of the specification.

In paragraph 5 of the Action, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In paragraph 8 of the Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brauner et al. In paragraph 10 of the Action, claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brauner et al. in view of Toshima et al.

In view of the rejections, claims 1-4 have been cancelled, and new claims 5-11 have been filed. Claims 5-10 are readable on the elected species.

As clearly recited in new claim 5, a packaging body of the invention is used for heat processing a material retained therein. The packaging body includes a plastic base material having side joining sections, and end sides. The side joining sections and end sides are superposed and connected together to form a bag for filling the material.

A sealant layer is interposed between the end sides to connect the end sides together therethrough to thereby form a vapor communication joining section at the end sides. The sealant layer has a peeling off property from 0 to 1,200 gf/15 mm at 90°C and a peeling off property of equal to or more than 3 kgf/15 mm at a room temperature. Thus, only when the packaging body is heated more

than 90°C, the vapor communication joining section is only opened to release pressure inside the packaging body.

Namely, in the invention, the peeling off property at the end sides is different. Only when the packaging body is heated more than 90°C, the end sides are partly separated by the inner vapor pressure to release the vapor from the inside of the packaging body.

Brauner et al. cited in the Action relates to a self-opening flexible pouch for use in a microwave oven, which includes a thin plastic film laminated to a paper substrate. As shown in Fig. 5, the plastic film is folded and sealed at portions 32a, 34a, 36a. In particular, the back sides of portions of the panels 52, 62 and 64 are brought into contact, actually their adhesively coated surfaces, with each other and these engaging portions are heat sealed together (column 7, lines 20-24). Namely, the edges of the plastic film are covered with the heat sealable adhesive 26 and are fixed together. The pouch closed at the portions 32a, 34a, 36a is opened as shown in Figs. 11 and 16 when heated at the microwave oven.

In the invention, the sealant layer has a peeling off property from 0 to 1,200 gf/15 mm at 90°C and a peeling off property of equal to or more than 3 kgf/15 mm at a room temperature. In Brauner et al., the plastic film is sealed at the portions 32a, 34a, 36a through the adhesive 26, but the peeling off properties different at the temperature as disclosed in the invention are not disclosed or suggested.

In the invention, only when the packaging body is heated more than 90°C, the vapor communication joining section is only opened to release pressure inside the packaging body. In Brauner et al., all the portions 32a, 34a, 36a are opened when heated.

The features of the invention are not disclosed or suggested in Brauner et al.

Toshima et al. relates to a sealed bag, wherein both sides of the film are turned outside to form turned-up faces, and a turned-up line formed by the two rows of the turned-up faces is covered with a fusing tape fused with the turned-up faces of the film. The peel strength of the tape from the film of the bag is 100 g/15 mm to 1,500 g/15 mm.

In the invention, the sealant layer has a peeling off property from 0 to 1,200 gf/15 mm at 90°C and a peeling off property of equal to or more than 3 kgf/15 mm at a room temperature. In Toshima et al., the peel strength is 100 to 1,500 g/15 mm, which is within the range heated at 90°C in the invention. However, it is not stated that the peel strength is obtained at the specific temperature as in the invention. Thus, the peel strength in Toshima et al. is the strength at the normal or room temperature. In the room temperature, the peel off property of the invention is equal to or more than 3 kgf/15 mm, greater than that disclosed in Toshima et al.

In the invention, the peeling off properties are different when the packaging body is heated or retained in the room temperature. However, Toshima et al. shows only one peel strength.

Actually, if the peel strength is 100 to 1,500 g/15 mm as in Toshima et al., the tape can be easily peeled from the turned-up faces when the pressure is applied to the bag. The strength of the bag is not sufficient in the normal usage.

The features of the invention showing two different peeling off properties are not disclosed or suggested in Toshima et al.

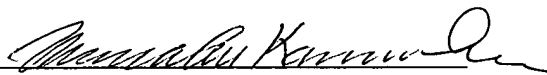
As explained above, the cited references do not disclose or suggest the features of the invention. Even if the cited references are combined, the present invention is not obvious from the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

One month extension of time is requested herewith. A check in the amount of \$55.00 is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,

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